

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

FRIDAY : : : : : FEBRUARY 8

THE MODERN INQUISITION.

The "third degree" as the extortion of evidence at a police inquisition is called, first came into wide public notice when Czolgosz, the assassin of President McKinley, was made the victim of its mysterious processes.

Police reporters in most American cities believe the "third degree" to be, in its mildest stage, a severe cross examination reinforced by threats or by false promises of a mitigation of sentence; and that, in its more drastic stages, it embodies the dark cell, starvation and occasionally blows.

Of course, the "third degree," if only half as black as it has been painted, is as uncivilized as some of the inquisitorial ways of Spanish courts in the middle ages; and on that account we are glad to see a growing curiosity about it in the moral press.

Dr. J. S. Christison of Chicago, chancing early last year into a court room where a young man, Ivens by name, was on trial for murder, was powerfully impressed with the conviction that a so-called confession, wrung from the prisoner by "sweat-box" methods, was due entirely to hypnotic suggestion.

Enough is known of the case now to make it almost impossible that this young man should have committed the murder. Dr. Christison has investigated criminal records and secured startling testimony bearing upon the question of the weight to be given to "sweat-box" confessions of crime where no corroborating evidence is available.

There is no sort of question that many innocent people have been put to death through such evidence. Not long ago we noted an article in the Green Bag, a legal publication, which gave an account of a case happening years ago in Bennington county, Vt., where a man suddenly disappeared and two brothers with whom he was last seen, after being held in jail for some time and in the midst of much popular excitement, finally were induced to confess the crime, going into all the details of a shocking murder.

It is reasonable to conclude that the rights of accused men need the further safeguarding of law; so that there can be no time between arrest and trial when they can be exposed to any form of police or legal catechising without the presence of counsel.

THE PROPOSED JUNKET.

Hawaii spends a great deal of money to get tourists and no class of tourists could possibly be of more value to it than representative Congressmen of both houses. It would pay to get them here at any price required for transportation and entertainment.

But let the Advertiser emphasize the qualifying word "representative." Every legislative body is ruled and run by a fractional part of its membership. The rank and file do as they are told.

To sum up: If Hawaii pays the expenses of Congressional visitors it should insist upon its choice between a lot of good fellows who want a tropical lark and serious-minded statesmen who are students of insular problems.

THE ACHI BENEFACTION.

We congratulate Mr. Achi. There is really nothing that Honolulu needs so much as more government. The city, with the general oversight of the Territorial authorities and the more intimate ministrations of the county officials, is fairly aching to get a \$5000 mayor and a lot more expensive functionaries.

Mr. Achi has attended to our needs with great skill and it is pleasant to know, besides providing such a nice lot of new offices, that he has vested the mayor with enough patronage to enable him to construct the finest political machine ever organized in Polynesia.

For Mayor—Wm. C. Achi. Platform—All there is in it.

NOT A NEWSPAPER SENSATION.

About the most absurd talk we hear is that the row between Japan and the United States is an affair of the newspapers.

Is it to be supposed that the President sent his startling message to Congress favoring the Japanese and thereby alienating the Pacific slope, the labor elements and the Republican politicians who truckle to labor, simply because of newspaper chatter?

Did he hustle a cabinet minister across the continent to umpire a school row because of some irresponsible item he saw in his evening paper?

Did he urge the California Legislature to go slow with its contemplated anti-Oriental bills, and invite the school politicians of San Francisco to come and see him post haste because some yellow reporter had suffered from a rash of fakes to the head?

Has Congress and the Navy Department, at his urgency, started in to safeguard American interests in the Pacific as was not for a moment thought necessary three months ago, just because the press made a mountain out of a molehill?

These generals and admirals and attaches and statesmen who ridicule the idea of there being any serious friction with Japan are either talking under orders or talking through their hats.

The Advertiser doesn't merely infer this; it knows it. Its knowledge of what had happened up to three weeks ago was just as official as if one of its reporters had brought to it a packet of diplomatic correspondence on the subject written in plain English.

Some day the written diplomacy of this period will be published both at Washington and Tokio and then the people will realize, not only the critical nature of the situation as it stood, when the President's message was written, but will credit the President with a patience, an adroitness and a sobriety of judgment with which not even some of his friends have credited him.

It seems to have been forgotten that the candidates in the county campaign who led the promising to raise the wage-scale on the roads were DEFEATED—notably Gear, the chief sponsor of the scheme.

THE GANG REAPPEARS.

The increase of the wage scale at a time when the police and fire departments have been weakened for economy's sake was a rotten proceeding; and any supervisor who voted against it deserves well of his constituents.

In the proceedings of the county committee we note a movement towards the enactment of a municipal bill, to further increase the burdens of the taxpayers and the opportunities of graft. This is not the Achi enterprise but another one, without the saving grace of a combination with the county.

The spirit of this municipal enterprise may be judged by a demand for a Police Commission through which it is expected to regain control of the opportunities of graft which the people wrested from the old gang last November.

Evidently the Civic Federation has plenty of work cut out for it and we should not be surprised if a Union League Club embracing the respectable and public-spirited men of the Republican party would also be useful.

THE HILO BREAKWATER.

Hilo's fight at Washington for a breakwater was made necessary by the action of Colonel Heuer, of the Engineer Corps, who had reported against the project. It seems that, according to a Congressional document just issued, Captain Slattery had recommended a rubble mound breakwater, with concrete superstructure, to cost \$2,092,878; but that, on November 7 last, Colonel Heuer, the division engineer, expressed the opinion that the proposed improvement was not warranted by the present and prospective commercial interests involved.

Editor Shiozawa is probably right in saying that Japanese cable news via Victoria is often stale when it reaches Hawaii. For years the Associated Press has largely depended on Oriental news which Victoria got in the Empress mail, generally at a later date than that in which the same news had reached Hawaii by the Harriman and Japanese steamers.

There may be a good deal in the argument of the Maui News relative to prevention of illicit liquor selling, but any law that does not give the residents of suburban sections and along rural highways—or wherever there is not regular police surveillance—protection from grogeries amidst their homes will be radically defective.

An amazing story comes from Washington about a bitter passage of speech between the President and Senator Foraker at the annual dinner of the Gridiron Club. Reduced to the simplest terms of speech the President insulted Senator Foraker because of his attitude in the Brownsville case and the Senator in retorting defied the President.

Where is there a better place than Hawaii for maneuvers of a joint fleet of Asiatic and North Pacific squadrons? It was chosen for that purpose a few years ago over all competitors and nothing has occurred since to disturb the advantages it then enjoyed.

If torrential weather continues for another month the street repair bill will make the average taxpayer long to get his name safely stowed away on the delinquent list.

A London physician reports that the sugar eater is proof against consumption. The physician in question recommends that every person should eat at least twenty lumps of sugar or an equivalent in candy daily.

The Legislature will cut a bad figure at Washington if it chooses to forego \$30,000 Federal aid for a regular session simply to enable the members to enjoy the emoluments of an extra session.

TRADE WITH CUBA.

Exports from the United States to Cuba in the calendar year 1906 were larger than in any other year of American trade with that island. Imports from the island fell \$10,000,000 below those of the high record year, 1905, this fall being due to a reduction in prices of sugar, of which the quantity imported in 1906 was greater than in any earlier year in the history of our trade with that island.

The total value of exports to Cuba in 1906, as shown by figures just compiled by the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, was \$46,491,944, against \$44,569,812 in 1905, \$33,644,345 in 1904, and \$23,504,417 in 1903, the year immediately preceding the beginning of the present reciprocity treaty with Cuba.

Exports from the United States to Cuba never touched the \$20,000,000 line until 1892 and 1893, when under the reciprocity authorized by the act of 1890 they averaged \$22,000,000 in each of the years named. In 1894 the figure dropped to \$17,000,000 and did not again cross the \$20,000,000 line until 1899, averaging about \$24,000,000 per annum from that time until the end of 1903.

On the import side the values ranged between \$50,000,000 and \$75,000,000 per annum down to the end of 1894, dropping as low as \$16,000,000 during the war period, but again crossing the \$30,000,000 line in 1900, reaching \$57,000,000 in 1903, \$75,000,000 in 1904, \$95,857,856 in 1905, and dropping to \$85,055,295 in 1906.

This fall in the value of imports from Cuba in 1906 is due, as already indicated, to a reduction in the price of sugar, the quantity of sugar imported from the island during the year being considerably greater than in 1905, when the total value was much larger. The eleven months' figures which the Bureau of Statistics has now at hand show for 1906, 2,680,687,271 pounds of sugar imported from Cuba, valued at \$56,344,473; while for the corresponding months of 1905 the 2,283,094,054 pounds of sugar imported from that island were valued at \$69,573,899, the average price per pound for the eleven months of 1906 being 2.12 cents, and in the eleven months of 1905, 3.05 cents.

Sugar, as above indicated, forms by far the largest part of the imports into the United States from Cuba, being in the eleven months ending with November, 1906, \$56,344,473, against \$14,098,105 for leaf tobacco, \$9,938,089 for cigars and cigarettes, \$2,145,284 for iron ore, \$1,202,979 for bananas, and \$625,289 for molasses.

On the export side the number and variety of articles forming the trade are much greater. In the eleven months for which the Bureau of Statistics has now detailed figures, the principal articles exported to Cuba were: Manufactures of iron and steel, \$7,829,608, against \$7,322,878 in the corresponding months of the preceding year; wheat flour, \$2,613,034, against \$3,185,872 in the corresponding months of 1905; lard, \$2,582,454, against \$2,068,819 in the same months of 1905; lumber, \$2,175,156, against \$1,700,867 in the corresponding months of 1905; bituminous coal, \$1,658,995, against \$1,375,626 in the same months of 1905; boots and shoes, \$1,639,302, against \$1,405,947 in the corresponding months of the preceding year; cars and carriages, \$1,318,362, against \$702,739 in the corresponding months of the preceding year; corn, \$1,190,820, against \$1,004,115 in the same months of the preceding year; cattle, \$991,032, against \$1,941,452 in the same months of 1905; cotton cloths, \$892,560, against \$1,140,001 in the same months of the preceding year; other cotton manufactures, \$484,130, against \$383,914 in the corresponding months of 1905; vegetables, \$465,161, against \$810,273 in the corresponding months of 1905; eggs, \$748,517, against \$366,550 in the corresponding months of the preceding year; instruments and apparatus for scientific purposes, \$671,003, against \$462,512 in the corresponding months of the preceding year; and electrical machinery, \$436,681, against \$78,602 in the same months of 1905.

The official figures of the Cuban Government show that the United States in 1905 supplied 45 1-3 per cent. of the total imports of Cuba and took 86 1-2 per cent. of the total exports of that island.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

(From Wednesday's Advertiser.)

James Gull, for several years manager of the Hawaiian Mercantile Co. at Kohala, retired from that position last week and is now in charge of the house furnishing department of E. O. Hall & Son, Ltd.

Eddie Desha has signed for another season with the Punahou baseball team. The Diamond Heads have been expecting him, but they will now have to look elsewhere. The Punahou will probably have all the Desha boys.

The Department of Public Works officials report that practically no damage was done to the Nuuanu dam during the storm of Sunday morning. A few yards of gravel were washed down the canyon and deposited in the basin above the dam.

Editor Shiozawa of the Hawaii Shinto puts little credit in the Associated Press despatch from Victoria which states that the Japanese government is about to allow four thousand laborers a month to leave the Empire for these islands. In a late issue of the "Yale News" of New Haven we find, in the rearrangement of the twelve divisions of "Sheff" for coming term, that Geo. F. Renton, Jr. is one of twenty-seven freshmen in Honor Section, Division No. 1 of the Sheffield School of Science, Yale University.

A fine collection of curios, cigars, fans and other plunder was made yesterday by the Custom House officers from the passengers of the transport Thomas, nearly all of whom walked ashore with dutiable goods and tried to dodge the officials on guard, their packages being confiscated as a result.

County Treasurer Trent will hereafter make his monthly reports more elaborate, so as to show how much every person on the county payroll has drawn.

No insurance will be placed on the property acquired by the Government in exchange for Lunal lands, as it is not the custom to insure Government property.

A blossom of the lauhala tree, a somewhat rare sight in Honolulu, has been sent to the Promotion Committee rooms by Mrs. Weaver and has been admired by a number of visitors. The great blossom has a particularly sweet perfume.

It is reported that the action taken by Japanese hotel-keepers at a meeting of their union, in passing a resolution against the departure hence of Japanese for the mainland pending the decision of the San Francisco difficulty, was due to the fact that the steamship combination advertising for Coast-bound passengers offered the hotel-keepers a per capita bonus no larger than the rake-off they were already receiving on account of their lodgers from other sources.

Yesterday's issue of A Liberdade, the Portuguese paper, contains a refutation of a proclamation lately issued by the acting governor of Madeira, which warned the Madeirans against emigrating to Hawaii. Editor Durao points out that, while few of his countrymen may have returned home wealthy, the Portuguese who have made their homes here own property assessed at \$3,000,000, besides the Punchbowl leaseholds at \$1,500,000, and \$250,000 in the savings banks.

BUSINESS CARDS.

F. A. SCHAEFER & CO.—Importers and Commission Merchants, Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands.

LEWERS & COOKE (Robert Lewers, F. J. Lowrey, C. M. Cooke).—Importers and dealers in lumber and building materials. Office, 414 Fort street.

HONOLULU IRON WORKS CO.—Machinery of every description made to order.

HONOLULU STOCK EXCHANGE

Honolulu, Thursday, Feb. 7, 1907.

Table with columns: NAME OF STOCK, Capital Paid Up, Val., Bid, Ask. Lists various stocks like MERRILL, C. BREWER & CO., SUGAR, etc.

* 23.1275 paid. 1 1/2 per cent. paid.

Morning Meeting: 5 Haw. C. & Sug. Co., 85.50; 5 Ewa, 25; 25 Hon. B. & M. Co., 27.75.

BETWEEN BOARDS.

5 Ewa, 24.575.

Marshal Hendry brought four Federal prisoners, including one detained as a witness, from Hilo. The Marshal has not given up hopes of catching Yoshida, the defendant who defaulted in appearance for trial for conspiracy at Hilo. Judge Dole meantime has declared the man's bond forfeited. His uncle Yoshida and Fred Makino are the sureties in \$1000 each.